

# Montana State Library

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# MONTANA LABOR MARKET

Monthly Review of  
EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK, LABOR SUPPLY, LABOR DEMAND, CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

## MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

### Division of Unemployment Compensation Commission of Montana

Albert F. Root, Commissioner

Wesley Castles, Chairman

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Mitchell Building — P. O. Box 1728 — Helena, Montana

FL-119



JANUARY 15, 1953

## December Employment 2,100 Above Year Ago

Employment in Montana industries and commerce during December kept pace about 2,100 above that of a year previous, the fifteenth successive month with employment figures above those of the same month of the preceding year. Total is estimated at 153,100, against 151,000 in December, 1951. This level came within 200 of equaling the November figures and reflected the smallest decrease registered in employment from November to December in the past five years. Estimates are a joint production of the Commission and the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### All Major Industries Gain

Every major industrial division registered an increased employment this December over last. Among specific industries the only decreases of more than 100 occurred in coal mining, on interstate railroads, and for contract construction of dams, highways, bridges, and other non-building items. These minor losses were offset by gains in companion phases of the same major industries.

### Mining Nets 300 Increase

Greatest pluralities over a year ago occurred in finance, insurance and real estate, in wholesale and retail trade, and in governmental employment, each of which major groups were up 400 workers. Manufacturing showed a net increase of 100; transportation and utilities of 200, service industries 100, while metal mining and oil production overcame the coal mining deficit to show a net 300 upward movement. Construction of buildings and special trade contractors in construction each show a 300 gain as opposed to the 400 decrease in non-building contract employment.

### Minor Variations Not Significant

In the manufacturing field lumbering and logging continues to show a higher employment figure than a year ago, despite the discouraging market conditions of late fall. Primary metals processing and clay and stone products are down slightly from last year, but are regarded as in stable condition. A deficit of 100 in petroleum production can be ascribed to field operations which have been interrupted by cold weather. Another minor decrease is shown in restaurant employment, probably a delayed adjustment following the end of the tourist season.

### Seasonal Changes from November

Seasonal influences are evident in the figures of December compared with those of November. While the total last month was only 200 below that of the month before, there were decreases of 1,300 in construction, 500 in manufacturing, and 500 in transportation and utilities. Offsetting these were gains of 700 in wholesale and retail trade, 300 in all mining, 100 in the finance industries, and 1,000 in government. The

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## SEASONAL FORCE REDUCTIONS IN STATE RESULT IN 7,500 LIST OF JOBSEEKERS

Montana's labor supply became increasingly surplus in nature during December, following the usual seasonal pattern. Jobseekers had numbered 4,100 at the beginning of the month, as evidenced by applications at offices of the employment service. At the end of the month there were 7,500 seeking work, the first month in 1952 recording a greater number of jobseekers than the same month a year previous. The 7,500 now compare with 6,700 a year ago, but fall short of the 8,500 at the close of 1950, and 10,800 when 1949 ended.

### Supply Comes From Construction, Timber, Sugar Plants

Shutdowns and reductions of force were responsible for much of the increased labor supply. Seasonal industries were the principal factor, as is customary in this state and most of its neighboring states. Construction employment scaled down to skeleton proportions; all but one of the four sugar refineries completed the season run; logging and lumbering depleted its employed manpower, both from seasonal and from weak market influences; harvest of Christmas trees was ended; railroads used fewer men on track maintenance; one metal mine closed permanently and others in remote mountain areas closed for the winter; while agricultural activities tapered into the usual winter minimum of employment.

### Layoff Peak Due in January

This cycle of winter layoffs reaches its peak in January, with the release of temporary holiday help in retail trade and service establishments, and in the postal service. Further additions to the labor supply may also be expected from those industries already mentioned, as other units come to a winter halt.

### Women Favored in December

Continued employment and re-employment during December was more favorable for women than for men, the percentage of women among the jobseekers dropping from 30 at the beginning of the month to 19 at its close. In numbers there were 1,200 women seeking work December 1, and 1,400 on January 1. The male applicants meanwhile increased from 2,900 to 6,100.

### Job Placements Dwindle

Placement of applicants in jobs by employment service offices in the state reached 2,050 in December, 330 below the figure for December a year ago, reflecting the diminishing activity of employers, particularly in outdoor and general construction work. Principal demand during the month, as might be expected, came from retail and wholesale trade, with 554 job placements. Service industries followed with 256, farm employers 224, and contract construction 211. All of these except trade were far below the summer peak demands.

### Two Big Dams Near Completion

Diminishing importance of the government dam building program as an employment factor in the labor markets of Montana is evident as the two big projects, Hungry Horse and Canyon Ferry, go into their final construction stages. Both are virtually dormant during the present winter

period, resulting in notable accumulation of unemployed jobseekers at the adjacent employment service offices and in the volume of unemployment insurance claims based on Montana wage credits which are reaching the state from other states. Many of the workmen have residence outside of Montana.

### Tiber Dam Starts in Spring

A newer project, the Tiber Dam near Chester in the area of the Shelby office, is coming into greater prominence as an employment center. Initial contracts are let, housing accommodations are in progress of construction, and some employment is expected to develop there as spring opens. Offices at Havre, Great Falls and Cut Bank feel the effect of migrants seeking jobs on the Tiber. Some of the unemployment at Kalispell, Polson and Helena will also find its way onto payrolls at the Tiber dam during the coming season.

### Aluminum Plant Will Use 500

Employment at Hungry Horse is reported at 300, about 12 percent of its peak numbers. Activities there during 1953 will probably require services of 400 to 600 more persons. Construction of the aluminum plant at Columbia Falls will employ up to 500 or more next season, many of whom will be former Hungry Horse workmen.

### Canyon Ferry Nearing Finish

Canyon Ferry dam has substantial construction yet to be completed, will probably see activity in late March and require 300 additional men. It now has a skeleton crew of about 125. The prime contractor at Canyon Ferry has announced July 1 as completion date of that phase of the project.

### Highway Building at Low Level

Employment on the state highway system decreased in December to its midwinter low of 950, approximately 300 below the November total and nearly matching the 960 of a year ago. This compares with employment of 2,350 last summer, 1,350 on construction and 1,000 on maintenance and repair. At the close of December the high-

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## Along the Hiring Line --- Field Summary Jan. 1

**ANACONDA, Deer Lodge, Philipshurg**—(118 jobseekers; 88 men, 30 women; 24 men and 12 women over 45) Favorable late December weather permitted resumption of cement work on hospital addition basement. Hiring at smelter is light, replacements only. Transient flow heavy for season, 75 to 100 a week. Job openings extremely limited.

**BILLINGS, Columbus, Hardin, Roundup, Laurel, Red Lodge**—(981 jobseekers; 774 men, 207 women; 310 men and 61 women over 45) Seasonal decline continues to add numbers to the jobseeker list. Supply is far in excess of demand and the peak has not been reached. Release of holiday help in retail trade and service has begun. Construction jobs are cut to skeleton crews; sugar factories both finished their season run in early December. Coal mining uses about the normal force; one mine closed for a week, releasing and then recalling about 100 miners. Most job applicants are established residents, not available for jobs in distant areas.

**BOZEMAN, Ennis, Three Forks, Trident**—(167 jobseekers; 136 men, 31 women) Seed sorting began in December, calling 50 women for a four months run. Employment

in other industries on a downgrade. Construction and the timber industry laid off crews during December. No new contracts in sight until spring, agriculture also dormant as to employment.

**BUTTE, Virginia City, Whitehall**—(468 jobseekers; 337 men, 131 women) Gradual layoff of construction crews continues as weather advances, following the normal seasonal pattern. Miner demand continues though housing shortage precludes recruitment from other areas. Released construction and farm workers returning to mine work for winter period. Increase in hires for trade and service felt in December, will recede after holidays.

**CUT BANK**—(138 jobseekers; 117 men, 27 women; 34 over 45) Labor demand in trade circles was the only bright spot in the labor market during December. Seasonal layoffs occurred in construction and other outdoor work throughout the month, with no new projects starting. Favorable weather may bring about the deferred increase in staff at the government installation. Severe weather will bring additional layoffs in the area.

**DILLON**—(21 jobseekers; 16 men, 5 women) Outside work generally suspended during December. Section crews on the railroad are trimmed to the winter minimum. Road job to Twin Bridges completed, will be oiled in the spring. Trade hiring active during December.

**FORSYTH, Colstrip, Hysham**—(41 jobseekers; 32 men, 9 women) Very few transients, labor demand at minimum. Some residence construction jobs continuing, inside work only. Building of new clinic delayed as cold weather halted placement of concrete. Cattle shipping season about concluded.

**FORT BENTON**—(38 jobseekers; 28 men, 10 women; 5 men and 2 women over 45) Outdoor work was continued through most of December but winter shutdowns marked the close of the month. Surplus of farm and construction workers seeking jobs.

**GLASGOW, Fort Peck, Opheim**—(181 jobseekers; 147 men, 34 women; 23 men and 7 women over 45) Cold weather and snow caused stoppage of outdoor work; construction crews laid off or reduced to skeleton proportions. Farm work completed in good weather, demand light in December.

**GLENDIVE, Circle, Wibaux**—(45 jobseekers; 39 men, 6 women; 20 men over 45) Little demand from farm employers. Construction dormant, no new projects to begin until spring. Highway projects closed for the winter. Oil drilling continues but very little hiring activity. Women workers were in demand in December for retail trade and cafe work.

**GREAT FALLS, Choteau, Stanford**—(601 jobseekers; 474 men, 127 women; 179 men and 37 women over 45) Construction of city water projects continues to use small crews; construction of housing for air base is nearly done, work on a school building resumed in December. Heavier than normal employment of temporary help in retail trade and postal service for holidays, followed by usual New Year employment re-

duction. Farm hiring in the area is light, feeding requirements are below normal. Considerable surplus of farm hands available.

**HAMILTON, Stevensville**—(208 jobseekers; 175 men, 33 women; 67 men and 13 women over 45) Holiday hiring less than year ago, releases already effective. Reduction of force on government payrolls marked beginning of year. Road construction project was halted, with general reduction in construction and in logging and lumbering employment. No new buildings started.

**HAVRE, Chinook, Harlem**—(221 jobseekers; 192 men, 29 women; 21 men and 7 women over 45) Increase in applicants seeking Tiber Dam employment. All construction work is on seasonal lay-off basis. Employment good in retail trade up to end of holiday period. Farm hiring at minimum, usual demand for stock feeders not yet felt.

**HELENA, Canyon Ferry, White Sulphur Springs, Townsend, Boulder, Garrison**—(426 jobseekers; 352 men, 74 women) Labor demand was slow during December, below that of year ago. Shut down of metal mine and end of brickyard season added to unemployment. Canyon Ferry construction is at a standstill, only a maintenance and operating crew on the job. Retail trade and service maintained a good demand through December, with one-third of the placements being women. The smelter is operating with full crew and few replacements. Not much increase in demand in sight until spring.

**KALISPELL, Whitefish, Columbia Falls, Hungry Horse**—(1,663 jobseekers; 1,391 men, 272 women) Seasonal layoffs in construction, logging and lumbering, Christmas tree harvest, all contributed to a heavy accumulation of jobseekers during December. This is further augmented by the normal reductions of force in trade and service at the turn of the year. Employment at Hungry Horse is down to 300. Construction of aluminum plant is to begin early in spring, may require 500 or more at peak next season. Will be completed in 1954 and give employment to 400 or 500 in operation. No firm prospect of employment gains until spring.

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## Seasonal Reductions Increase Jobseekers

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way commission reported 200 men at work for contractors on 53 miles of highway, six bridges, and two overpasses, while 750 were in the maintenance and repair crews over the state.

No substantial change in highway employment is expected until March. Suspension of work during December affected 150 miles of road construction, two bridges and a gravel crushing job. These will be reactivated as conditions permit, and to them will be added highway contracts awarded during the winter months.

### Miners Find Ready Jobs

Metal mining continued to be a labor demand industry. Some additions to underground crews resulted as qualified miners returned from summer work outdoors and resumed stations in the mines. Lack of housing facilities in the mining centers has interfered with efforts to bring in experienced miners from distant points. Resumption of active recruitment is expected to occur next summer, with completion of housing accommodations about June.

### Unemployment Reflects in Claims

Claims for unemployment benefits increased in volume steadily through December, following the usual winter pattern, but were substantially below most of the post-war years. Early January brought the usual heavy increase, following termination of temporary employment in trade, service, and postal circles.

## December Employment 2,100 Above Year Ago

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government increase is nearly all due to employment of holiday extras in post offices in the state. Most of the trade upsurge in employment was also due to holiday influences.

### Year's Average Is Highest

The full year of 1952 had an average employment of 152,600, based on these preliminary estimates. The highest previous annual average was 149,900 in 1951. Records of the past five years reveal an annual growth in employment ranging from one percent to approximately two percent. The gain this year over last is 1.8 percent.

## FIVE YEARS OF MONTANA INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT TOTALS, BY MONTHS (in Thousands)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Aver.
1948 .....	134.4	132.0	133.2	137.1	140.6	145.8	148.9	150.3	151.4	149.6	149.4	147.7	143.4
1949 .....	137.1	135.5	137.7	144.0	147.3	151.0	150.0	150.1	149.8	148.2	146.1	143.3	145.0
1950 .....	133.2	132.2	135.2	142.1	147.3	153.6	154.9	157.1	156.8	152.2	150.7	148.8	147.0
1951 .....	141.9	139.6	140.5	146.2	150.6	155.3	155.8	156.7	155.8	154.6	151.7	151.0	149.9
1952 .....	144.6	143.3	144.1	149.8	154.5	157.4	158.2	158.3	158.4	156.1	153.3	153.1	152.6



## Along the Hiring Line ---

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**LEWISTOWN, Harlowton, Ryegate, Winnett**—(142 jobseekers; 106 men, 36 women; 24 men and 18 women over 45) Demand decreased normally through December, though some retail trade hiring on temporary basis bolstered the labor market. No new projects in sight until spring. Farming demand light through December, surplus of farm applicants.

**LIBBY, Eureka** — (102 jobseekers; 79 men, 23 women; 34 men and 7 women over 45) Labor supply increased rapidly through December, no new employment in sight. Demand for lumber may hold that industry at present level through winter. Many small mills are closed and logging outfits are laid off; Eureka mill reported closing and in process of sale.

**LIVINGSTON, Big Timber** — (238 jobseekers; 182 men, 56 women) New bridge over Yellowstone to be begun in January, hospital construction will resume about the 15th, if steel shortage permits. Holiday help in retail stores being released at turn of year. Railroad hiring confined to replacements in roundhouse and shops. Farm demand light, stock feeding not up to normal levels.

**MALTA** — (73 jobseekers; 55 men, 18 women; 22 men and 3 women over 45) Construction work all shut down, little prospect of resumption in January. Layoff of retail trade holiday help has begun. Steady increase in new applications for work.

**MILES CITY, Baker, Ekalaka, Broadus, Terry**—(118 jobseekers; 102 men, 16 women; 28 men and 7 women over 45) Seasonal layoffs of construction crews, including railroad, has swelled the unemployment totals. Holiday help at retail stores now adding to the surplus. Job applicants not willing to take distant work.

**MISSOULA, Drummond, Arlee, Superior** —(662 jobseekers; 520 men, 142 women; 199 men and 35 women over 45) Seasonal layoffs in construction and in woods work were later than year ago but equal in volume. Gradual increase in claim load is resulting. A Butte chemical outfit is looking into prospect for establishing branch plant here, to employ about 35 persons. No decision announced.

**POLSON**—(335 jobseekers; 306 men, 29 women; 138 over 45) Unemployed totals are affected by shutdown of local sawmill, employing 50, and layoffs at Hungry Horse construction project. The sawmill is expected to re-open in January. Installation of additional power unit at Kerr dam will require larger crews in January, if weather conditions permit.

**SHIELBY, Chester, Conrad**—(81 jobseekers; 63 men, 18 women) Construction continued with full staffs up to Christmas; oil fields, service establishments and grain elevators at normal employment level. Building of two road segments and a bridge, as well as new school addition, all fully staffed. Further needs for building crews at Tiber dam in January if open weather continues.

**SIDNEY**—(139 jobseekers; 122 men, 17 women; 22 men and 6 women over 45) Outdoor work shut down for the winter, heavy store hiring and in automobile garages kept demand fairly well balanced with supply in December. Sugar plant also an active hiring factor, will close after completing season run in January.

**THOMPSON FALLS, Hot Springs**—(222 jobseekers; 198 men, 24 women) New road contract in forest will pick up the crew on similar project now finishing. May continue through the winter. Smaller logging outfits and mills closed, a major sawmill moved to adjacent area, taking its crew along. Employment was on a declining scale through December, no upturn expected until March.

**WOLF POINT, Plentywood, Scobey**—(88 jobseekers; 76 men, 12 women; 18 men and 2 women over 45) Favorable weather in December permitted construction work to continue. Twelve-unit housing project nearly finished, using 5 men. Hospital at Plentywood and oil pipe line and six new houses at Poplar also nearly complete. Hotels and cafes reducing employment for the winter.

## ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN MONTANA (1)

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT			Net Change	
	Dec. 1952 (2)	Nov. 1952 (3)	Dec. 1951	Nov. 52 to Dec. 52	Dec. 51 to Dec. 52
<b>NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES..</b>	<b>153,100</b>	<b>153,300</b>	<b>151,000</b>	<b>-200</b>	<b>2,100</b>
<b>Manufacturing .....</b>	<b>18,800</b>	<b>19,300</b>	<b>18,700</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>100</b>
Durable goods .....	11,400	11,300	11,300	100	100
Lumber and timber products .....	6,900	6,900	6,600	0	300
Primary metals .....	3,600	3,600	3,700	0	-100
Other (4) .....	900	800	1,000	100	-100
Nondurable goods .....	7,400	8,000	7,400	-600	0
Food and kindred products .....	4,500	5,000	4,400	-500	100
Printing and publishing .....	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
other (5) .....	1,400	1,500	1,500	-100	-100
<b>Mining .....</b>	<b>11,300</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>
Metal mining .....	8,800	8,400	8,400	400	400
Bituminous and soft coal mining .....	600	700	800	-100	-200
Petroleum-natural gas production .....	1,300	1,300	1,200	0	100
Quarrying and nonmetallic mining .....	600	600	600	0	0
<b>Contract construction .....</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>8,300</b>	<b>-1,300</b>	<b>200</b>
Contractors, building construction .....	3,700	4,100	3,400	-400	300
Contractors, other than building .....	1,500	2,200	1,900	-700	-400
Contractors, special trade .....	3,300	3,500	3,000	-200	300
<b>Transportation and utilities .....</b>	<b>22,700</b>	<b>23,200</b>	<b>22,500</b>	<b>-500</b>	<b>200</b>
Interstate railroads .....	13,600	14,200	14,000	-600	-400
Transportation except railroads .....	3,700	3,600	3,400	100	300
Utilities including communication .....	5,400	5,400	5,100	0	300
<b>Trade .....</b>	<b>39,500</b>	<b>38,800</b>	<b>39,100</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>400</b>
Wholesale Trade .....	8,900	9,100	8,700	-200	200
Retail trade .....	30,600	29,700	30,400	900	200
General merchandise and apparel .....	7,400	6,300	7,700	1,100	-300
Food stores .....	4,400	4,500	4,300	-100	100
Eating and drinking establishments..	6,800	7,100	6,900	-300	-100
Automotive and filling stations .....	5,400	5,300	5,200	100	200
Retail trade not elsewhere classified..	6,600	6,500	6,300	100	300
<b>Finance, insurance and real estate .....</b>	<b>4,800</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>4,400</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Services and miscellaneous .....</b>	<b>18,300</b>	<b>18,300</b>	<b>18,200</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>
Hotels, rooming houses, camps, etc. ....	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Personal services .....	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	100
Other (6) .....	13,200	13,200	13,200	0	0
<b>Government .....</b>	<b>29,200</b>	<b>28,200</b>	<b>28,800</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>Great Falls Area (Cascade County) .....</b>	<b>13,900</b>	<b>13,800</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-100</b>
<b>Selected Industries</b>					
Manufacturing .....	2,700	2,800	2,800	-100	-100
Transportation and utilities .....	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
Trade .....	5,700	5,500	5,700	200	0
Services and miscellaneous (7) .....	2,900	2,900	2,900	0	0

- (1) Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, firm members, personnel of the armed forces, domestic servants, and self-employed persons are excluded.
- (2) Preliminary estimates based on return from sample of 595 selected Montana establishments.
- (3) Figures previously released have been revised on returns from 914 such establishments.
- (4) Includes fabricated metal products, machinery except electrical, furniture, stone and clay products.
- (5) Includes apparel, chemicals, petroleum, and miscellaneous manufacturing products.
- (6) Includes commercial trade schools, auto repair services and garages, miscellaneous repair services and hand trades, motion pictures, amusements and recreation, medical and health, law offices and professional services, nonprofit membership organizations and business not otherwise classified.
- (7) Same as (6) above, also includes finance, insurance, real estate and mining.

## COMPARISON OF BASIC LABOR MARKET TRANSACTIONS IN DECEMBER, 1952, AND DECEMBER, 1951

Employment Service Office	New Job Applicants				Jobseekers in File				Job Placements				Employer Visits		Job Openings		U. I. Claims Week 1-10	
	Dec. 1952		Dec. 1951		Dec. 1952		Dec. 1951		Dec. 1952		Dec. 1951		1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951
	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.						
Anaconda.....	114	33	81	21	118	41	83	15	58	13	44	10	42	17	64	55	111	78
Billings.....	794	208	408	116	981	362	781	204	241	84	414	140	59	199	264	268	808	662
Bozeman.....	248	69	154	63	167	59	136	45	244	63	194	73	138	151	235	178	152	152
Butte.....	242	29	193	19	468	47	406	36	182	27	246	60	165	224	194	353	477	387
Cut Bank.....	95	38	94	32	138	47	120	37	28	11	23	8	72	44	25	23	95	163
Dillon.....	52	24	49	21	21	10	23	9	62	13	48	10	45	60	18	25	44	38
Forsyth.....	19	7	36	5	41	14	40	9	25	8	24	10	53	38	19	9	25	43
Fort Benton.....	20	4	18	5	38	9	20	6	16	7	18	7	43	40	7	15	41	27
Glasgow.....	93	28	77	15	181	50	151	33	80	17	94	25	83	56	79	86	97	108
Glendive.....	72	18	72	18	45	7	28	4	70	16	87	34	49	51	65	78	62	39
Great Falls.....	307	130	285	118	601	206	713	232	179	64	163	41	124	154	187	216	774	813
Hamilton.....	26	8	62	19	208	54	243	56	19	6	26	4	93	73	19	28	220	190
Havre.....	150	50	95	29	221	77	125	34	102	31	89	32	101	125	82	68	106	121
Helena.....	289	113	309	145	426	153	419	136	161	61	189	95	68	79	176	221	441	412
Kalispell.....	289	88	287	113	1,663	524	1,307	392	38	13	73	24	33	38	57	85	1,440	1,642
Lewistown.....	120	34	116	39	142	43	186	49	26	8	25	8	42	45	31	17	169	176
Libby.....	35	10	22	9	102	29	87	18	2	0	14	4	28	10	8	16	113	130
Livingston.....	104	22	102	21	238	66	284	46	69	26	82	26	110	86	52	84	223	160
Malta.....	47	19	21	6	73	26	88	28	41	19	52	22	56	60	43	51	62	78
Miles City.....	85	31	93	29	118	39	148	36	85	28	122	45	60	72	60	102	172	117
Missoula.....	277	91	222	61	662	213	663	158	128	36	108	40	83	76	125	95	677	636
Polson.....	80	22	73	20	335	91	242	78	7	1	17	9	12	50	11	18	395	294
Shelby.....	59	18	63	16	81	20	88	28	26	9	77	18	61	90	45	87	77	101
Sidney.....	111	32	83	25	139	33	122	37	80	19	55	11	129	46	76	43	86	119
Thomp. Falls.....	97	29	25	7	222	83	96	25	15	6	48	23	18	55	16	59	269	181
Wolf Point.....	84	25	64	19	88	36	95	27	37	11	46	18	68	40	44	37	131	104
Tchr. Plcmt.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	31	9	2	1	23	26	22	37	....	....
TOTALS.....	3,909	1,180	3,104	991	7,517	2,339	6,694	1,778	2,052	606	2,380	798	1,858	2,005	2,024	2,354	7,267	6,971

## AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)  
(Hours and earnings data exclude administrative and salaried personnel)

INDUSTRY	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. (1) 1952	Nov. (2) 1952	Dec. 1951	Dec. (1) 1952	Nov. (2) 1952	Dec. 1951	Dec. (1) 1952	Nov. (2) 1952	Dec. 1951
All Manufacturing .....	\$78.04	\$78.80	\$75.06	40.1	40.7	41.4	\$1.95	\$1.94	\$1.81
Durable goods .....	78.93	78.76	77.89	40.3	40.1	41.6	1.96	1.96	1.87
Primary metals .....	83.53	83.12	83.14	45.0	45.0	45.6	1.86	1.85	1.82
Nondurable goods .....	76.48	78.81	70.37	39.7	41.6	41.0	1.93	1.89	1.72
Food and kindred products .....	60.30	66.96	61.91	40.2	42.7	41.6	1.50	1.57	1.49
All Mining .....	82.40	82.87	87.37	40.5	40.7	43.0	2.04	2.04	2.03
Metal mining .....	80.78	80.78	86.20	40.9	40.9	43.0	1.98	1.98	2.01
Transportation and Utilities (except railrds.) .....	71.75	70.55	67.93	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Transportation (except railrds.) .....	84.82	83.65	79.73	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Utilities and communication .....	65.38	64.24	62.36	39.9	39.0	39.0	1.64	1.65	1.60

(1) Preliminary estimates. (2) Figures previously released have been revised on more complete returns.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION  
COMMISSION OF MONTANA

MITCHELL BUILDING  
P. O. Box 1728  
HELENA, MONTANA  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

President  
Montana School of Mines  
Butte, Montana

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL  
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Act of Congress  
Par. 35.4 (P) (1), P. L. & R.





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